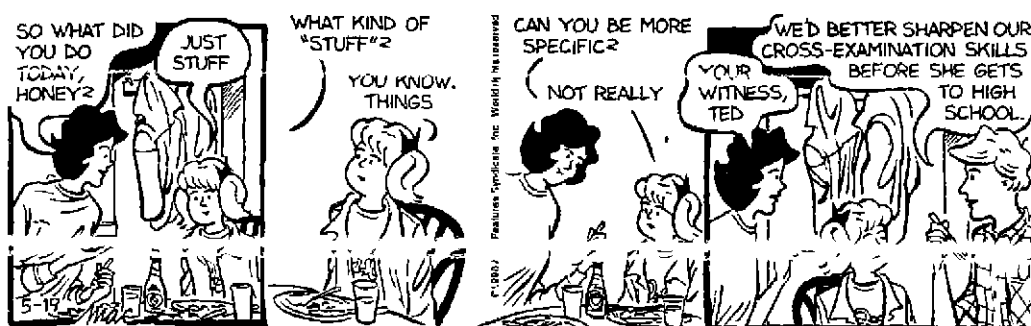


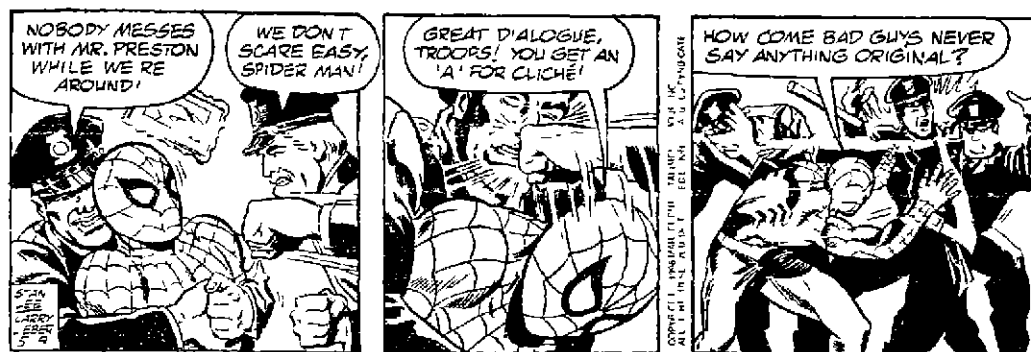
BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



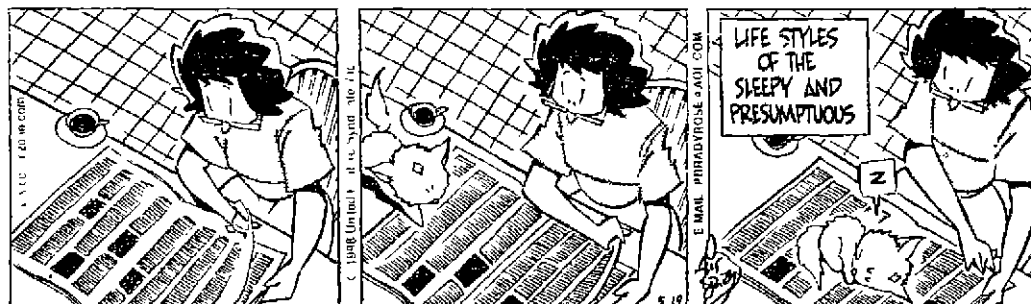
9 CHICKWEED LANE



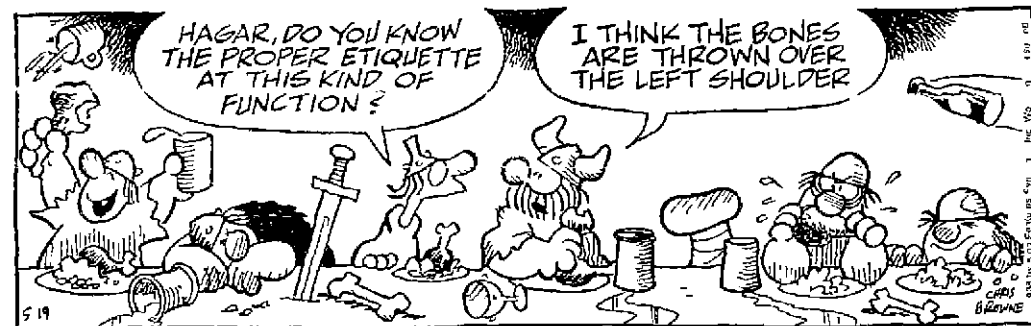
ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



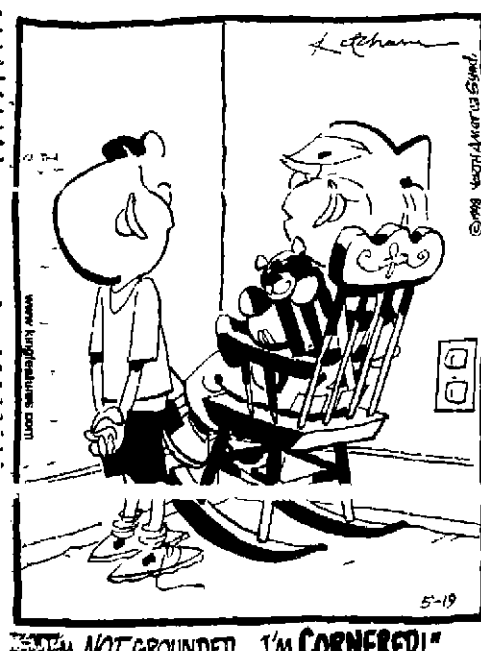
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



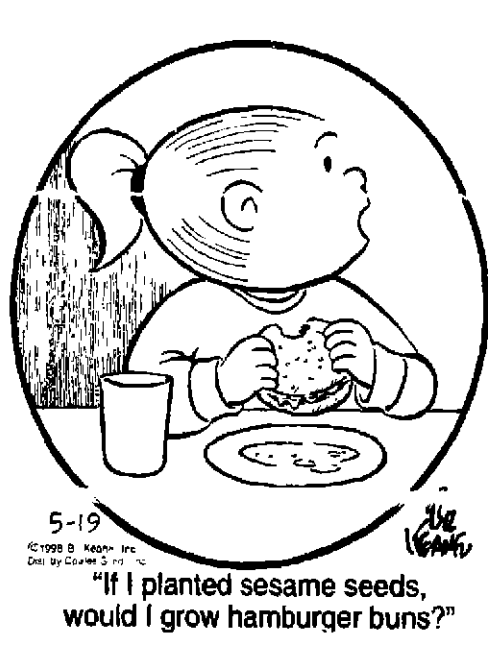
DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



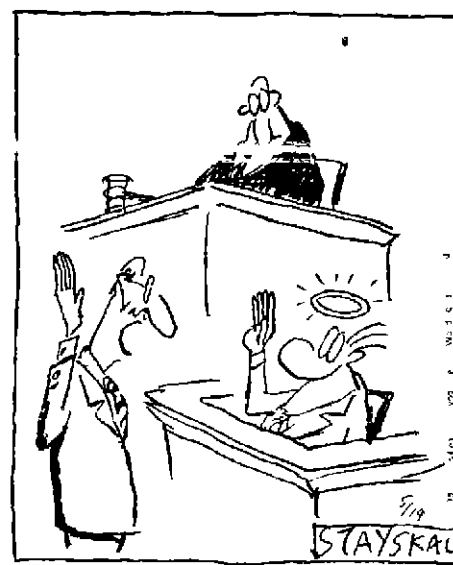
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

PBS newscaster Jim Lehrer is 64
TV personality David Hartman is 60
Actress Nancy Kwan is 59
Author-director Nora Ephron is 57
Concert pianist David Helfgott is 51
Rock singer-musician Dusty Hill (ZZ Top) is 49
Singer-actress Grace Jones is 46
Rock singer Joey Ramone (The Ramones) is 46
Baseball catcher Rick Cerone is 44
Actor Steven Ford is 42
Rock singer Jenny Berggren (Ace of Base) is 26

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 100-110

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, May 20, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) In general things have calmed down, both on the job and at home. Enjoy this time of tranquility.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Go ahead and celebrate that joyful occasion. Your full mental capacity is required at work, where an important project awaits.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're puzzled by a romantic interest who seemingly has lost interest in you all of a sudden.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A bit of unpleasantness occurs between you and a close friend, however, it soon blows over.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You've put off that distasteful task for so long that now you have to play catch up.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) What you're considering is merely wishful thinking. Plant those feet firmly on the ground! If you do, you'll avoid disappointment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You spend some time during morning hours correcting a novice co-worker's error. However, be gracious about it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Stop complaining about that early-morning wake-up call. Getting an early start is in your favor.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A problem with an elderly relative upsets you. Sit down with other family members and try to reach a solution.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You feel that someone is leading you on about a certain situation. If your suspicions are right, be sure to assert yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Your mate is puzzled by your reluctance to talk about your emotions. If you reach out, you'll receive all the help you need.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You're on the last track at work. Your innovative solutions to certain problems have bigwigs applauding.

WORD SLEUTH

Used for hauling

F C Z X V T R P N L J H E C A
G R E B E C I Y K R O Y W E N
W R V L T R C P N L R Y K I W
S T A O B E F I L E G R R E O
S O U T H A M P T O N U E C R
B Z X W S U K S S N R X M P B
O M L J I E A N G R A U A E Y
D B A Y X S T W I U O L E T L
S T H G I N D I M S O T T P L
O N L D 2 I 9 I H K N A S A O
K J H S I T I R B W H U G A M

Monday's unlisted clue: PIPER

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: COLLIDED WITH THE SHIP

1912 Disaster Molly Brown Steamer
Astor Lifeboats New York Unsinkable
Atlantic Luxury Sank White Star
British Midnight Southampton

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"Am I getting paranoid?" asks a reader. "Please look at this hand. Where did East find his double and how did West know what to lead?" North's jump to three no-trump promised game values and four spades. Otherwise why use Stayman? South corrected to his 4-4 fit and East found his 'suspicious' double. East took his top clubs and led a third club, giving South a discard he didn't need. Expecting East to have the spades, South led a low trump from dummy and East produced a low diamond! Not only was this unnerve, it cost a 500-point penalty and raised suspicions. Were South's suspicions justified? No, they were not. East's double is the 'off-side double.' The bidding announced that North and South each had four spades (North would have made a transfer bid with five), revealing West's trump stack to East. The double was a bold and enterprising move. West was likely to lead a club and after East took his two winners, he knew the trump stack would cause problems. That South was deceived regarding the location of the spades was extra icing on the cake. Had South known West had all the spades, he might have held his losses to one down, but that is not the issue. There is no law that compels the defenders to reveal their holdings and the double was not without risk. We humans tend to suspect chicanery when an opponent makes a bold and courageous call — but only if the opponent's action is a winner.

NORTH		EAST	
♥ A 3 2	♠ 10 9 7 6	♥ 10 9 4 3	♠ A K 10 7
♦ A 8 6	♣ J 7	♦ 8 7 6 5 4	♣ A K 10 7
♣ J 9	♦ Q 10 3	♠ 6 4 3	♣ Q 8 5 4
♠ J 8 5 2	♣ K Q 5 2	♠ A K 9	♣ Q 9

Vulnerable Both

Dealer South

The bidding

South West North East

1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass

4 ♠ Pass Pass 5 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Opening lead Club six

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0407

ACROSS

1 Andy's pal

5 Decent-sized diamond

10 Latin I word

14 Term of endearment

15 Kitchen appliance brand

16 Shed

17 LIGHTS!

20 Chop down

21 Actress McClurg

22 DNA structure

23 Carolina college

24 Bradley, the G.I.'s General

26 Composer Gustav

29 Moot

33 Red as —

34 Cove, L.I.

35 Cotton gin maker Whitney

36 CAMERA!

40 Troupes for the troops Abbr.

41 Appearance

42 Bisect

43 Traitorous

46 Joke that causes a belly laugh

47 Franchise

48 "Stop waiting around!"

49 Heart pitapat

52 Animation frames

53 Average guy

54 ACTION!

55 French cleric

61 Fishing craft

62 One conquered by Pizarro

63 Unfairly deprives (of)

64 Playful animal

65 Big bovines

DOWN

1 1970's hitmakers from Sweden

2 "Manifesto" writer

3 Bassoon's cousin

4 The Bering, e.g.

5 Where Duncan was done in

6 Forcefully

7 Widemouthed Martha

8 "What else?"

9 — chi ch uan

10 Unit named for a French physicist

11 — Flanders'

12 Jar —

13 Crossing for Charon

18 Computer order

19 Spawning fish

23 Ht.

24 Indian, e.g.

25 "Death in —"

26 Conductor Kurt

27 Mistreat

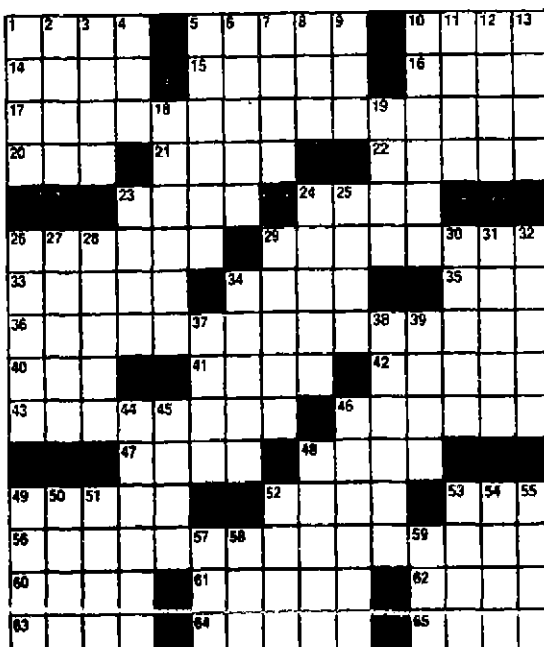
28 "Great blue" bird

29 French back street

30 Board

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BANG AMASS EAST
AGEE MACRO INCA
BULLDOURHAM QNAT
EEL ALIE ETHANE
DIES STAY
AGHAST SWIMMERS
FOAMY THEM EVEL
TORN TRADE NANA
RESAMPLE CRUELS
NOEL POET
SNAKES MICA OLE
POLE THENATURAL
ALOE RISER REDS
NOUS YEAST NODE



Puzzle by Randy Sowell

31 "As —" and breathe!
32 Fall drink
34 Dance move
37 " — my wit's end"
38 — longue
40 11-Down's creator
49 Stowe lift
50 Tracks traveler
51 L.B.J. in-law
52 Serial abbr.
53 Foredoom to failure
54 Fairy tale opener
55 Actor Richard
57 Earth-friendly prefix
58 Used a 38-Down
59 Carnival site

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS